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HUMAN EXPRESS PACKAGE.

A Box Contained a Boy Who Told a Remarkable Story.

There arrived at the express office in Coffeyville, Kan., a few days ago, a package consigned to William McCowan, which appeared to be a dry goods box containing a large dog. It was supplied with breathing holes and the express agents were instructed to pour water into an aperture containing a receptacle inside to receive it. The shipment was made from a small town in the Indian Territory. Two days later, not finding the consignee, the agent opened the box, but instead of a dog he found in it a diminutive colored boy between 16 and 17 years old.

The story he told was almost beyond belief, although there is some corroboration. When four or five years old, he said, he was stolen from home by two men named John Long and Will McCowan. He does not remember his parents' names or where they lived at the time of his abduction. He was placed on a horse in front of one of the men and taken on a long journey. They rode all night and for several days afterwards, until finally they arrived in a dense wood, where they were joined by several other rough-looking men, like his captors, heavily armed.

The gang went into a deep canyon, in the side of which was the entrance to a cave which proved to be the retreat of a band of robbers. In this cave the boy, whom his captors named George, was kept in captivity for a number of years, being treated as a slave and employed in doing all sorts of menial labor for his captors. The men would frequently leave the cave and be absent for several days, and sometimes most of them would be away for weeks at a time. On their return they usually had plenty of money.

When he grew up he was taught to ride and shoot. His masters wanted no tender plants in the camp. They would place him on the back of a horse with neither saddle nor bridle and the animal would be started off on a wild run by the cut of a whip and shooting of guns. Sometimes the men would amuse themselves shooting at his legs just to see him jump. One of his legs bears the scars of a dozen bullet wounds.

Later he joined the gang on their expeditions, robbing banks and holding up trains. On one occasion two of the outlaws were killed. The gang was joined in New Mexico by Bob and Grat Dalton, and subsequently by the other Daltons. The colored boy correctly gave the movements of the Daltons from that time up to the raid on Coffeyville, and told how the raid was planned and executed. The boy was shipped in a box, he says, by Long, who evidently desired to get rid of him because he knew so much. In Coffeyville he is regarded as a hero and his accounts of the depredations of the notorious Dalton boys are listened to with the greatest interest.

Queer Collections.

E. W. Dunn, of California, has a very valuable collection of pine cones.

Mrs. Lambert Tree of Chicago has a splendid collection of old Dutch cabinet ware.

A London man has a six-ton collection of many thousands of varieties of Christmas cards.

Poster collection is not a new fad by any means, but has only recently become at all popular.

Miss Helene Willis, of San Jose, Cal., has a fine collection of locks of hair of football heroes.

T. M. Seabury of Fall River, Mass., also has a very fine collection of old shoes of different styles.

Queen Margherita of Italy has a famous collection of historic shoes, including those worn by Mary Queen of Scots, Marie Antoinette, Joan of Arc (?) and others.

Peeling Pearls.

Peeling pearls is a little trick which Parisian jewelers have reduced to a science. They will take a pearl which is apparently so imperfect that it is scarcely marketable and with a skill bordering on the marvelous will peel off the outer layer and develop a lovely gem.

A pearl is made up of layers of "nacre" and animal tissue. The nacre is that beautiful, iridescent substance which gives to mother-of-pearl and the lining of sea shells their chief beauty, and it is especially attractive in the pearl oyster. The layers of nacre and animal tissue alternate, so that the skilled jeweler can peel an ugly, discolored pearl and take of it quite another jewel. The tools employed are a sharp knife, extremely delicate files, soft leather and pearl powder. The layer of nacre is hard and difficult to cut, but the pen-1 renovator chips it off bit by bit, feeling his way with the edge of his knife, for the layer is too thin to be seen by the unaided eye.

Winter Wear.



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J. W. GILMAN, Supt. JOHN SINGLETON, Gen. Pass. Agt.HILL'S POLITICAL HISTORY OF THE
UNITED STATES.

By Thomas E. Hill.

This is a large octavo book of 450 pages, condensed by tabulation into a small book that it may be universally sold and circulated at a low price.

Its purpose is to clearly present, in a manner entirely non-partisan, the merit attaching to each party. No partiality is shown in behalf of any political organization. Like the dictionary, it simply defines. It gives the best-known argument in favor of each, and leaves the reader free to choose which he will serve.

It treats upon the important live issues of the time, and is an indispensable work to people who would intelligently discuss the political situation. It is a very exhaustive compendium of Political Facts and literally answers thousands of questions. To illustrate:

What are Democratic principles?	What does a single tax advocate propose?	What was the basis of the tariff?	What would be the tax on suburban property, and how much on the acre worth two million dollars in the center of the city?	What does a Republican believe?	Why be a Republican and favor high protective tariff?	What are the arguments for and against protection?	What do the Socialists want?	What would be the conditions if Socialistic principles prevailed?	What do the Populists desire?	If government owned and operated the banks, and banks never failed, and people never lost their money, and all money came out and into circulation, and money was so abundant that interest became low, and all enterprises started up and everybody had employment, what then?	What do the Nationalists want?	Why nationalize the railroads, the coal mines and various industries?	What do the eight-hour advocates propose? If working certain hours yields certain profit, how could working less hours yield more profit?	How could women be benefited by voting?	What started the financial panic of 1893?	Who commenced the trade against silver, that resulted in the repeal of the Sherman law?	Who started the stampede on the banks in 1907, by which 714 of them failed in eight months, and four hundred million dollars	What has thrown so many people into idleness of late years?	Why so many tramp?	What is the history of the Cozy movement?	When did the coal miners strike begin and what was the extent of that movement?	What are the facts about the Pullman strike, the American Railway Union and the boycott of the Pullman cars?	What are the remedies proposed when by capital and labor may each have justice?	See "Hill's Political History of the United States."
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